

# Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✦ Paola, Kansas



## From the PASTOR

*I was again invited to write the "Voices of Faith" column in The Kansas City Star. I was asked to give my answer to the question, "What does the Bible mean when it says: 'the sting of death is sin'?" This article responding to that question appeared in the January 17, 2015 issue.*

*The "Voices of Faith" column is also reprinted in dozens of other newspapers across the country. I learned this when I began receiving appreciative emails about my articles from many different places. A Wisconsin Synod pastor from North Carolina commented: "It seems like these articles are usually by Buddhists and Muslims and Hindus. I'm happy whenever it is a Christian minister giving a good, Bible-based reply. But it was such a nice surprise to open the paper and find your excellent, conservative Lutheran response!"*

Pastor Kevin Vogts

*What does the Bible mean when it says: "the sting of death is sin"?*

I bathed my father and fed him with a feeding tube the morning of the day he passed away. After five years battling cancer I knew it couldn't be long. Yet, when my brother called that evening with news of Dad's death, it was a total shock. Though his death had been looming for years, and in many ways should have been welcome, I was overwhelmed with grief.

Logically, death should be as natural as birth, just another phase in the cycle

of life. So, why do we celebrate births, but mourn deaths? It's because deep down we know the truth: Humans were never meant to die, and death isn't really natural at all.

God intended for us all to live with Him forever. The Apostle Paul explains in Romans 6:23 why instead we now die: "Death is the wages of sin." That's what Paul means when he says in 1 Corinthians 15:56, "The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law." Death stings us so because we know, whatever the immediate cause, the root cause is our sin.

But, Paul immediately continues with the Good News: "Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Jesus came to do for us what we are unable to do. He perfectly fulfilled God's law on our behalf by His own life of perfect obedience, and won forgiveness for all our sins by the sacrifice of His suffering, death, and resurrection. Through faith in Him death is no longer a stinging punishment, but the victorious entry into eternal life.

## Youth Director



Upon the recommendation of the Board of Education and Church Council, the Voters Assembly extended a contract to Director of Christian Education Janette Reinke of Lenexa to serve as a youth worker at Trinity part time.

Originally from Topeka, Janette is a 1998 graduate of Concordia, Seward with DCE certification. After working as

a DCE in several congregations she took time off when she had two daughters, and to obtain a master's degree in marriage and family counseling. She currently has her own counseling service in Lenexa, which will accommodate her also working for us part time.

Please keep Janette in your prayers as she considers this position.



## Hawaiian Sweetheart Dinner February 21

Beat the winter blahs with a Hawaiian-themed Sweetheart Dinner put on by our youth at Trinity on Saturday, February 21. The cost is \$20 per person. Proceeds will be used to support youth activities. Tickets will be for sale following worship services.



Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18. Services that evening and each Wednesday throughout Lent will be at 7:00pm.

The theme for this year's Lenten sermon series will be *The Characters of Lent*, focusing on the different characters

in the story of our Savior's suffering and death. We will begin on Ash Wednesday by considering the stories of Judas and Peter.

Come meditate on our Lord's suffering for your salvation!



## Sign Up to Sponsor Lent Dinner

Twin Valley 4 H invites you to a dinner in our Fellowship Hall before worship on Ash Wednesday, February 18. Other dates for Lenten services and dinners are February 25, and March 4, 11, 18, & 25.

Groups are invited to sign up now to host dinners on the sign up sheet on the snack table in the Overflow. The Blocktoberfest Committee has signed up for March 11, but all other dates are open. Thank you to all those hosting these fun fellowship events!

## Trinity Tribune

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February, 2015



## Sermons for February

Sermons by Pastor Vogts are available several ways, in both printed and audio form:

✘ On our congregation's web site,  
[www.trinitylcms.org/sermons](http://www.trinitylcms.org/sermons);

✘ As podcasts in the iTunes store  
under "Rev. Kevin Vogts";

✘ Online from our podcast host at  
[www.kevinvogts.podbean.com](http://www.kevinvogts.podbean.com);

✘ For mobile devices at  
[www.kevinvogts.podbean.com/mobile](http://www.kevinvogts.podbean.com/mobile).  
On most phones and other mobile  
devices you can save this link as an app  
for quick access.

February 1

*"Spread the News!"*

Mark 1:40-45

February 8

*"Two Parables About You"*

Mark 2:18-22

February 15

*"A Glimpse of Glory"*

Mark 9:2-9

February 18 (Ash Wednesday)

*"The Characters of Lent:  
Judas & Peter"*

February 22

*"On the Mountain of the Lord"*

Genesis 22:1-18

February 25 (Lent Service II)

*"The Characters of Lent:  
Caiaphas & Pontius Pilate"*



## Extra Communion Sundays

In response to requests from members, the Board of Elders and Church Council have decided to offer Holy Communion twice during the months of November thru February, due to the potential for severe weather during the winter months which may prevent some from attending on some Sundays. During those months we will have Holy Communion on both the 1st and 3rd Sundays.



## New Bible Class "These Are a Few of Our Favorite Hymns"

We will conclude our current study of Holy Week, *The Week That Changed the World*, in Adult Bible Class on Palm Sunday, March 29. There will be no class on Easter Sunday, April 5 due to the Easter Breakfast.

On April 12 we will begin a new study, *These Are a Few of Our Favorite Hymns*, looking at the background and meaning of—and singing!—beloved hymns. Join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Overflow beginning April 12 to get a deeper appreciation for your favorite hymns!



## Hymnal Ribbon Repair February 10

You may have noticed that some of the ribbons in our hymnals have become frayed. Everyone is invited to help repair them on Tuesday, February 10 at 6:30pm. We will trim and unknot ribbons that can be saved, and then treat the ends with "fray check" so that they do not become frayed again. Or for some copies we will put in new self adhesive replacement ribbon sets from Concordia Publishing House. Many hands make light work!



Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship during 2015? Most of the year remains open. Consider signing up for special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries.

There is a sign-up sheet for the New Year on the table with the snacks. Our Generations group has generously agreed to provide and prepare the coffee and juice each week, so those signing up are only asked to provide some treat. Thank you to all those providing snacks for Coffee Hour!

February 1

*Mission Sunday Potluck Dinner*

February 8

*Jan Cook*

February 15

*Nancy Golubski*

February 22

*Schlegels*

# The Characters of Lent



## 2015 Lent Services Wednesdays, 7:00pm

February 18 – Ash Wednesday

*Judas & Peter*

March 18 – Lent Service V

*Thief on the Cross  
& Roman Centurion*

February 25 – Lent Service II

*Caiaphas &  
Pontius Pilate*

March 25 – Lent Service VI

*Joseph of Arimathea  
& Mary Magdalene*

March 4 – Lent Service III

*Herod & Barabbas*

April 2 – Maundy Thursday  
Communion Service

*Given and Shed for You*  
1 Corinthians 11:23-25

March 11 – Lent Service IV

*Simon of Cyrene  
& Virgin Mary*

April 3 – Good Friday Tenebrae Service

*Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted*  
Isaiah 53:14



**Missionaries  
of the Month**

Our congregation helps support these missionaries sent out by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod through our mission contributions. Each month we remember in prayer in our worship services—and you are encouraged to remember in your personal prayers—specific missionaries around the world who are supported in this way by our congregation.

February 1

*Rev. Joel & Clarion Fritsche  
Dominican Republic*

February 8

*Gail Grieser  
Singapore*

February 15

*Rev. Richard & Gema Schuller  
Puerto Rico*

February 22

*Graham Guenther  
Taiwan*



**Mission  
Sunday**

We will observe Mission Sunday on February 1, with a mission-themed morning worship service, followed by a potluck dinner and presentation.

For the service, Pastor Vogts' mission message will be "Spread the News!" based on Mark 1:40-45. After the service, everyone is invited to bring your favorite dishes and stay for a potluck dinner. We will then enjoy a presentation by Trinity's own Chloe Rausch, about a trip she recently took to Mexico with support from Trinity's Endowment Fund.



**Sweetheart Dinner**

Saturday, February 21

Hawaiian Theme

Sponsored by Trinity Youth — Proceeds to Support Youth Activities  
\$20 per Person — Tickets on Sale Following Worship Services



**January Acolytes**

February 1 ..... Lance Elliott  
February 8 ..... Luke Elkinton  
February 15 ..... Karlie McMullin  
February 18 (Ash Wed) .... Evan Kettler  
February 22 ..... Olivia Mitchell  
February 25 (Lent) ..... Luke Elkinton



We list birthdays and anniversaries in the newsletter each month and the bulletin each week. However, our records may not be complete. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the Church Office at 849-3344 or email Church Secretary Stacey Elkinton at blocktlc@midwest-connections.com.

Ashtin Armstrong ..... February 2  
Jodie Wood ..... February 4  
Leslie Vohs ..... February 4  
Kerry Brandt ..... February 6  
Tanna Jones ..... February 6  
Glenn Minden ..... February 6  
Stacey Elkinton ..... February 7

Tyler Allen ..... February 7  
Karen Ohlmeier ..... February 8  
Daniel Wendte ..... February 9  
Darrell Brandt ..... February 10  
Terry Bunch ..... February 10  
Kathy Gerken ..... February 10  
Leonard Oberheide ..... February 10  
Hannah Raines ..... February 11  
James Haley ..... February 12  
Valerie Gerken ..... February 13  
Logan Hendrickson ..... February 13  
Joey Stephens ..... February 18  
Stan Windler ..... February 18  
Debbie Windler ..... February 19  
Judy Kutz ..... February 20  
Angie Marshall ..... February 20  
Carolyn Warner ..... February 20  
Jeff Davis ..... February 21  
Marty Stutzman ..... February 21  
Michelle Haley ..... February 25  
Curtis Hall ..... February 25  
Duane Rodewald ..... February 25  
Glenn Block ..... February 26  
Cate Minden ..... February 26  
Matthew Kriesel ..... February 27  
Reita Woodall ..... February 27  
Slina Prothe ..... February 28  
Austin Henry ..... February 29

February 10 .... Curtis & Kristie Weaver  
(19 Years)  
February 11 ... Lloyd & Karen Ohlmeier  
(53 Years)  
February 13 ..... Jeff & Windy Davis  
(22 Years)  
February 15 ..... Curtis & Jamie Hall  
(12 Years)  
February 19 .... Michael & Katie Taylor  
(10 Years)  
February 21 ..... Ron & Marcia Raines  
(26 Years)  
February 22 .... Kevin & Denise Debrick  
(23 Years)